a radio transceiver operable to transmit and receive on a low power radio frequency bi-directional link in order to transfer to the system the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device; and

wherein the system comprises:

a radio transceiver for coupling with the radio transceiver of the portable controller to transmit and receive on the low power radio frequency bi-directional link with the portable controller in order to transfer the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences to the system; and

control means arranged to configure the device in dependence upon the transferred control information defining the user's preferences.

17. (Currently Amended) A portable controller for storing control information defining a user's preferences for ~~a~~ system devices and for configuring system ~~a~~ devices ~~of the system~~ by transferring control information defining the user's preferences to ~~a~~ the system, the portable controller comprising:

memory circuitry arranged to store first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a first device in association with a first identifier, and second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a second device in association with a second identifier, and arranged to retrieve the first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the first device in response to a request including the first identifier, and to retrieve the second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the second device in response to a request including the second identifier~~and retrieve control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device~~; and

a radio transceiver operable to transmit and receive on a low power radio frequency bi-directional link in order to transfer to the system the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device.

39. (Currently Amended) A controller as claimed in claim ~~24~~17, wherein the memory circuitry stores and retrieves information identifying a particular system and only outputs control information corresponding to the device or devices of that particular system.

43. (Currently Amended) A controller as claimed in claim ~~24~~17, wherein the controller comprises means for performing a handshaking procedure with the system.

59. (Currently Amended) A controller as claimed in claim ~~24~~17, wherein the power to operate said controller is provided by the system to which control information is transferred.

65. (Currently Amended) A controller as claimed in claim ~~27~~17, wherein the power to operate said controller is provided by the system to which control information is transferred.

67. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring system a-devices ~~of a system~~ by transferring control information defining a user's preferences to a ~~the~~ system from a portable controller, comprising the steps of:

the portable controller stores first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a first device in association with a first identifier, and second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a second device in association with a second identifier;

the portable controller retrieves the first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the first device, when the portable controller receives a request including the first identifier, and the portable controller retrieves the second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the second device, when the portable controller receives a request including the second identifier~~and retrieves the control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device~~; and

the portable controller transmits and receives on a low power radio frequency bi-directional link in order to transfer to the system the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device.

68. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 67, wherein the portable controller stores and retrieves information identifying a particular system and only outputs control information corresponding to the device or devices of that particular system.

69. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 68, wherein the portable controller maintains a look-up table for associating the identity of the system and its device or devices with the respective device control information.

70. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for configuring vehicle management system a devices ~~of a vehicle management system~~ by transferring control information defining a user's preferences from a portable controller to a vehicle management system~~thereto~~, wherein the portable controller comprises:

memory circuitry arranged to store first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a first device in association with a first identifier, and second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a second device in association with a second identifier, and arranged to retrieve the first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the first device in response to a request including ~~associated with~~ the first identifier, and to retrieve the second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the second device in response to a request including ~~associated with~~ the second identifier; and

output means for transferring to the vehicle management system the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device; and

wherein the vehicle management system comprises:

means for coupling with the output means of the portable controller to transfer the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences to the vehicle management system; and

control means arranged to configure the ~~a~~ device in dependence upon the transferred control information defining the user's preferences.

71. (Currently Amended) A portable controller ~~defining the user's preferences for~~ storing control information defining a user's preferences for a vehicle management system devices and for configuring vehicle management system a devices ~~of the vehicle management system~~ by transferring control information defining the user's preferences to a vehicle management ~~the~~ system, the portable controller comprising:

memory circuitry arranged to store first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a first device in association with a first identifier, and second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring a second device in association with a second identifier, and arranged to retrieve the first control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the first device in response to a request including ~~associated with~~ the first identifier, and to retrieve the second control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the second device in response to a request including ~~associated with~~ the second identifier; and

output means for transferring to the vehicle management system the retrieved control information defining the user's preferences for configuring the device.

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Respectfully,

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